public buildings, places and corporations in Tamil Nadu will be named after any political leaders of past or present.

Expansion of Bangalore Airport's International Departure Lounge

2178. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVILAVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether renovation, expansion and refurbishing of Bangalore Airport's international departure lounge is long overdue, due to sudden spurt in traffic volume;

(b) whether a revenue of around Rs 1.50 crores is generated presently by sale of entry tickets to international departure lounge at Bangalore; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider undertaking the expansion/ renovation plans for international departure lounge estimated to cost around Rs. 1.60 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Due to recent spurt in traffic volume, renovation and modification of international departure lounge is considered necessary.

(b) Revenue of Re. 1.72 crores per annum is generated presently by sale of entry tickets at Bangalore Airport.

(c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) is already examining the structural feasibility of expansion and renovation of the existing international departure lounge. The project is in the planning stage and hence cost estimate has not been worked out.

Cancellation to flights between Delhi and Vishakhapatnam

2179. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that flights between Vishakhapatnam and Delhi were discontinued suddenly;

(b) if so, the reasons for such stoppage of flights between Vishakhapatnam and Delhi and other cities,

(c) whether adequate notice is given to passengers who have booked their seats much in advance;

(d) in what manner does Indian Airlines help passenges who planned their journeys much in advance and found that Indian Airlines or Alliance Air does not stick to its schedules; and

(e) the details of such policies and the rectifying steps proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Certain flights between Vishakhapatnam and Delhi, operated by Alliance Air had to be suspended from 17th to 28th February, 2005 due to operational and crew constraints. Operation of these flights was normalised w.e.f. 1.3.2005.

(c) to (e) Information, regarding withdrawal of services is invariably conveyed by the Indian Airlines Call Centre to all booked passengers, whose contact numbers are available. In the case of passengers booked to travel DelhiA/izag/Delhi, steps were taken to offer them convenient same day travel facility via Hyderabad or Mumbai as desired by the passengers. Facilitation is also extended to passengers of delayed/disrupted flights of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air as per the details given in the Statement.

Statement

Facilitation extended by Indian Airlines/Airline allied sen/ices limited to passengers of delayed/disrupted flights

* Alternative arrangements for travel to the destination either by air or alternate mode of transport if acceptable to the passengers.
* Involuntary re-routing if necessary/Involuntary upgradation to a higher class subject to availability of seats.
* Assistance in making onward/return reservations online or interline. Liaison with other airlines if the passengers are holding onward reservations with them.
* Services of appropriate meals depending upon the timings like breakfast, lunch, dinner etc. to the passengers either at the airport restaurant or nearby hotels.
* Hotel accommodation for 24 hours in case of cancellation of flights and passenger desires to travel next day.
* Short stay in hotel if the extent of delay is considerable or is at odd hours.

* Full refund is to be authorized if so desired by the passengers.

* Sending messages to station of destination using Indian Airlines channels.

* Permit passengers to make local/STD calls to their destinations. Reimbursement of such charges if call has been made from outside telephone.

* Transferring passengers and baggage to other airlines if available.

* In case delay occurs after boarding the passenger and the extent of delay is likely to be more than 20 minutes, passengers are deplaned and brought to the terminal. They are served with refreshments. If such facility is not available at airport they are sent to nearby hotel.

IPOs by AI and IA

2180. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:
SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that both the Air India and Indian Airlines have been asked to prepare the ground to launch their Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) by the end of this year to aid their expansion plans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the employees of both Air India and Indian Airlines would be given price preferential and firm allotment of IPO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The issue of an Initial Public Offerings for Air India and Indian Airlines is at a preliminary stage of discussion.

Permission to non-scheduied airlines to operate in the country

2181. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: